

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If entry and consideration of the amendments above requires an extension of time, Applicants respectfully request that this be considered a petition therefor. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee(s) due in this connection to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the amendments above and the following comments.

Applicants have replaced the previous claims by a new set of claims. Referring to the published application, US 2006/0035077, the concept that the carrier is colored black is supported by paragraph [0013]. The concept that the PSA is a silvery color is also supported by paragraph [0013] and Figure 2. The concept that the PSA is transparent and a silvery-colored reflective layer is positioned between the PSA and the carrier is supported by paragraphs [0010] and [0012] and Figure 1. The concept that the carrier layer is a film layer, for example, PET film, is supported by paragraph [0016]. The concept that the carrier film is made black by filling with black pigments is also supported by paragraph [0016]. The concept that the carrier is made black by coating with a black topcoat is supported by paragraph [0017]. Finally, the concept that one or both of the PSAs could be heat-activatable is supported by paragraph [0009]. Applicants do not believe the amendments introduce new matter. An early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Claims 8-10 and 13 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC § 103(a) as being obvious over Plaff et al. ("Plaff"), US 5,939,190. In response, Applicants respectfully submit that Plaff does not teach or suggest the specific constructions required by the new claims. There is no teaching or suggestion of a black carrier whether this involves a black filling or a black topcoat. Nor is there any teaching or suggestion of coloring the PSA itself. Nor is there any teaching or suggestion of

using a film carrier, in particular, a PET film carrier. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that Plaff does not anticipate or render obvious the present claims. An early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Claims 8-15 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being obvious over the machine translations of either of JP 2002-249741 ("JP '741") or JP 10-152658 ("JP '658") taken alone. In response, Applicants point out that JP '741 appears to correspond to US 7,157,125 inasmuch as both applications claim the same priority benefit. There is no teaching or suggestion in JP '741 of either of the pressure-sensitive adhesives being either (a) a silvery color or (b) transparent, but covering a silvery-colored reflective layer.

With respect to JP '658, there is no teaching or suggestion of a carrier being black in color.

In short, neither reference teaches or suggests the embodiments of the present claims. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection as well. An early notice that this rejection has been reconsidered and withdrawn is earnestly solicited.

Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a bona fide response to all outstanding objections and rejections.

Applicants also believe that this application is in condition for immediate allowance. However, should any issue(s) of a minor nature remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at telephone number (212) 808-0700 so that the issue(s) might be promptly resolved.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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